

## Human Rights -70th Anniversary.

I found this picture as I was browsing through the net and I asked myself -Can we really celebrate HUMAN RIHGHTS when millions of people are deprived of their basic human rights? The world is preparing to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the declaration of human rights. How many are aware of the Human Rights? It is the duty of me and you to take these rights to the people who live in the periphery of our society. Under human rights treaties, governments have the primary responsibility for protecting and promoting human rights. However, governments are not solely responsible for ensuring human rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) states:



“Every individual and every organ of society ... shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance.”

This provision means that not only the government, but also businesses, civil society, and individuals are responsible for promoting and respecting human rights.

After three years of intergovernmental negotiations and one of the most consultative processes in the history of the United Nations, UN Member States adopted and launched the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on 25 September 2015. This new Agenda for “people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership”, with its 17 Goals and 169 targets, is vitally important as it will strongly influence the direction of global and national policies relating to sustainable development for the coming years.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development marks a paradigm shift towards a more balanced model for sustainable development aiming to secure freedom from fear and freedom from want for all, without discrimination. Strongly grounded in international human rights standards, the new Agenda strives to leave no one behind and puts the imperative of equality and non-discrimination at its heart. Despite some gaps from a human rights perspective, the new Agenda goes far beyond the MDGs in encompassing issues related not only economic, social and cultural rights but also civil and political rights and the right to development.

The following table shows how human rights and SDGs are tied together in a mutually reinforcing way, in which binding human rights obligations underpin the political commitment to the SDGs.

SDGs	HUMAN RIGHTS
<p>Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.</p>	<p>UDHR 22: Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free ...</p>
<p>Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.</p>	<p>ICESCR: 11.1</p>
<p>Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</p>	<p>UDHR 3: Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.</p>
<p>Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.</p>	<p>UDHR 26.1: Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.</p> <p>26.2: Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.</p>
<p>Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.</p>	<p>UDHR 2: Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent,</p>

	trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.
Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.	UDHR 22
Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.	UDHR 25.1: Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.	UDHR 27.1: Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.
Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.	UDHR 25.1
Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.	UDHR 2
Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.	UDHR 25.1
Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.	UDHR 27.2: Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.
Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.	UDHR 3: Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.	ICESCR 12.1
Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.	UDHR 27.1
Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development,	UDHR 3

provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.	
Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.	UDHR 28: Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized.

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